

UC Merced
Bobcat Comics

Title

Excluded From The Safety Net

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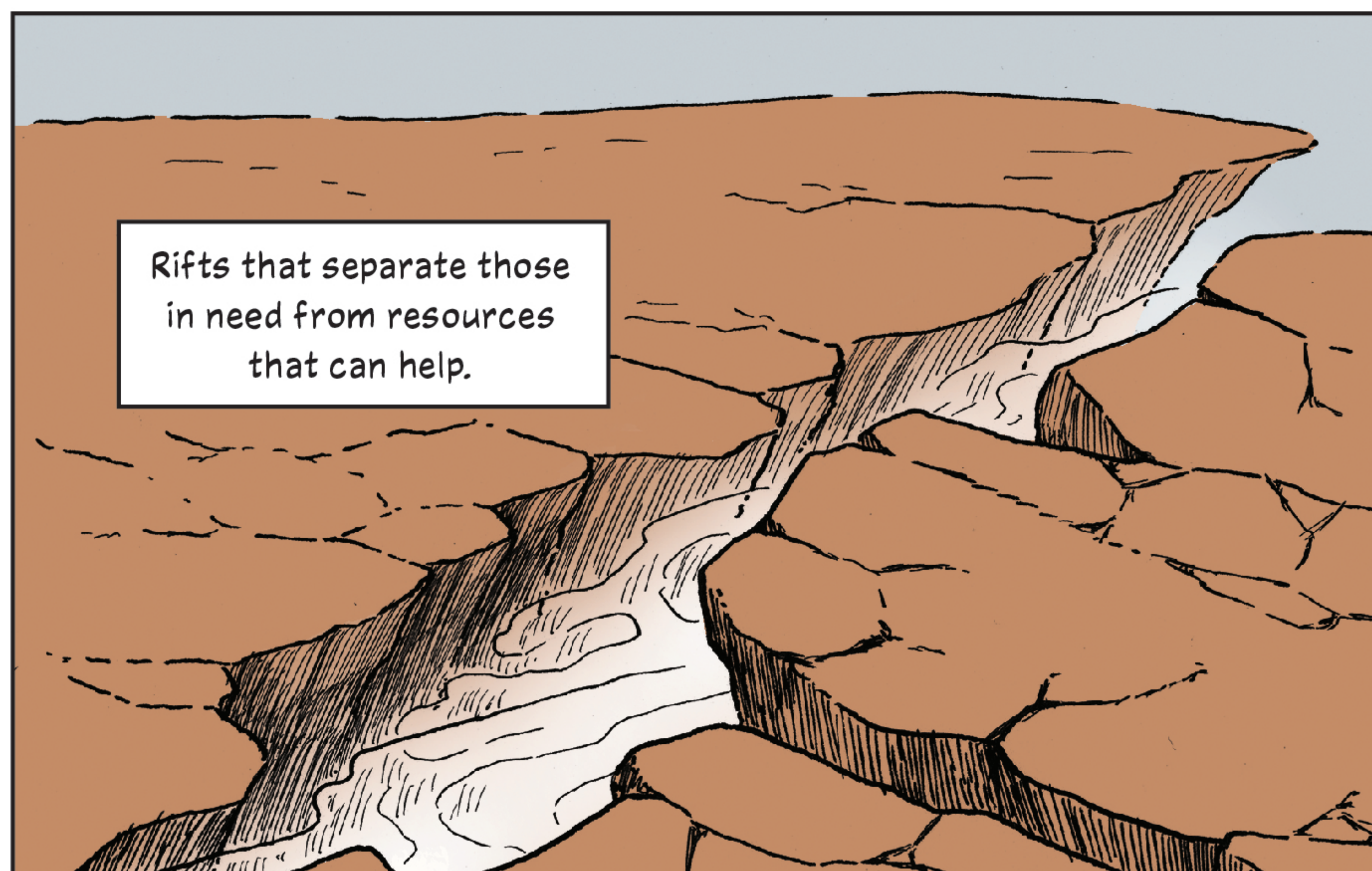
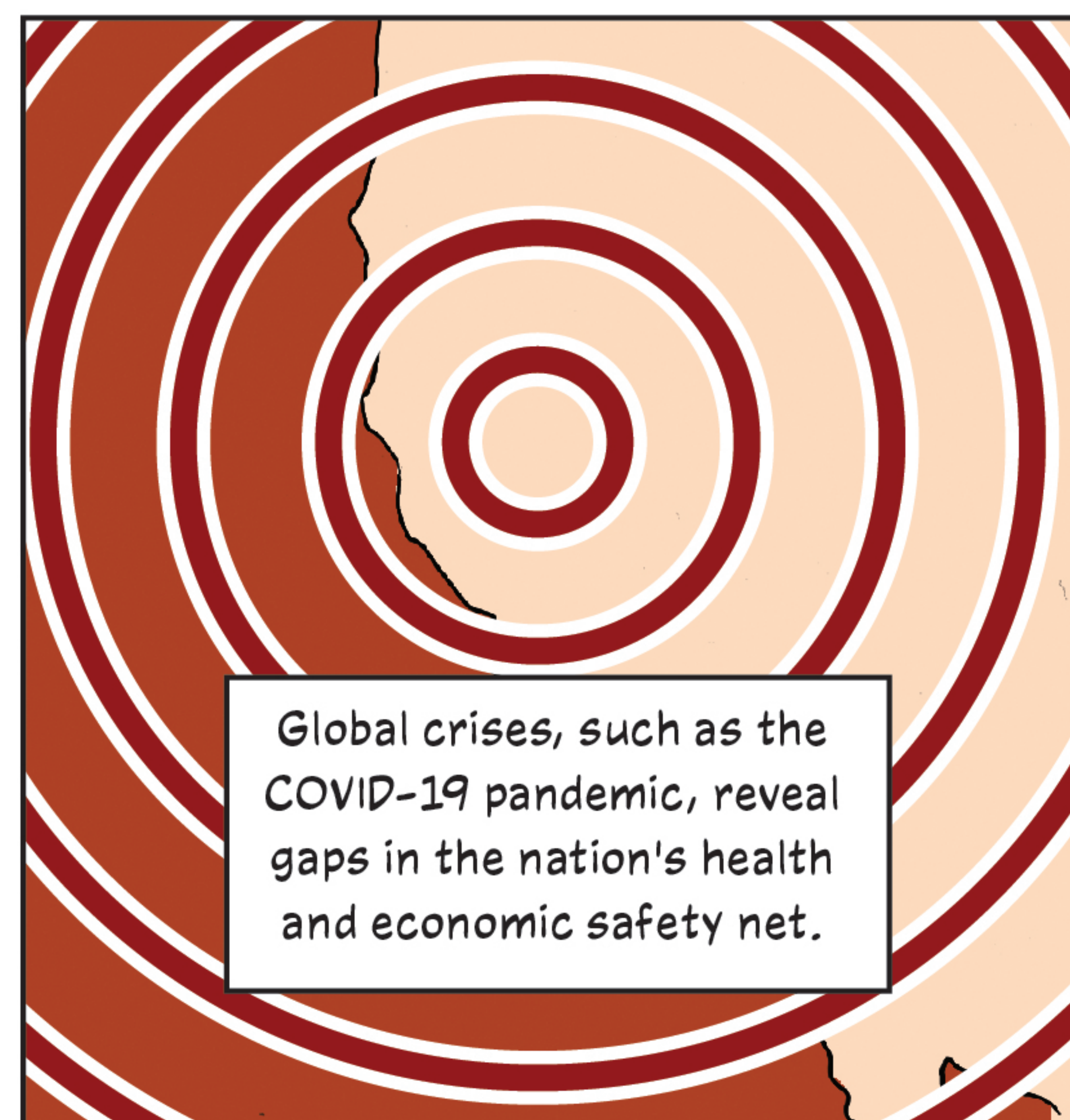
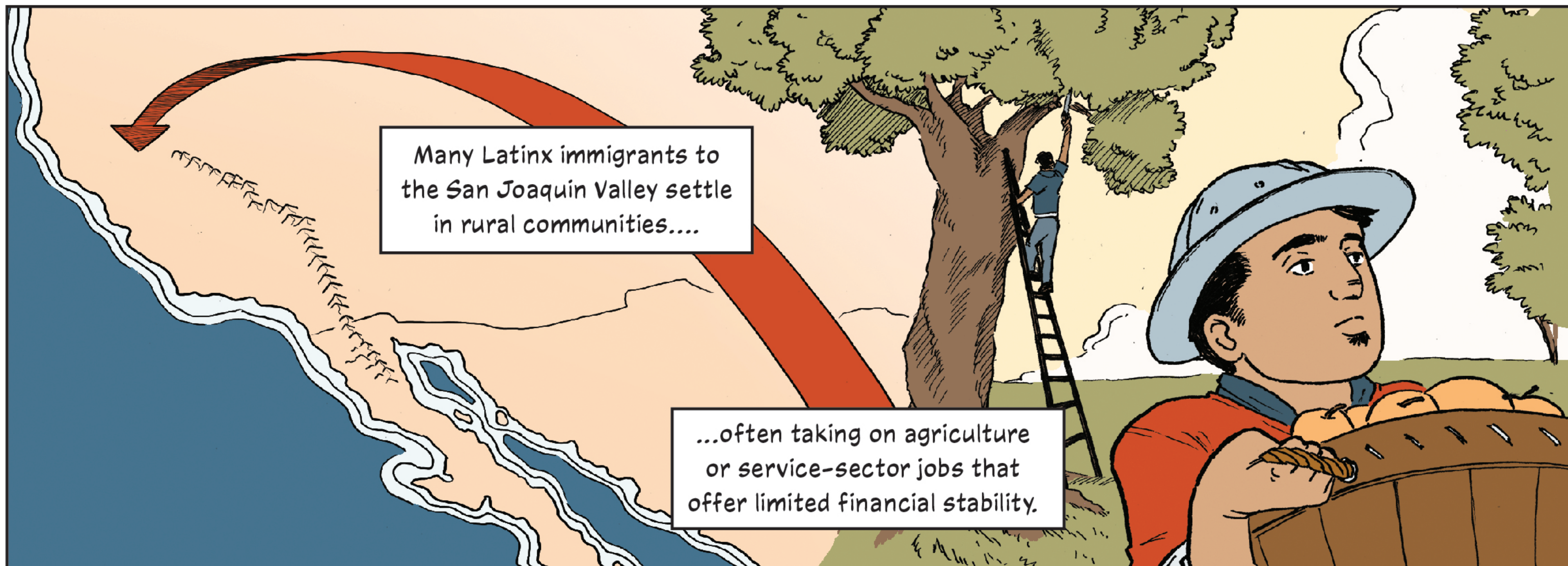
2023-10-01

EXCLUDED FROM THE SAFETY NET

Bobcat Comics, UC Merced Center for the Humanities, 2023.

Illustrator: Abrian Curington

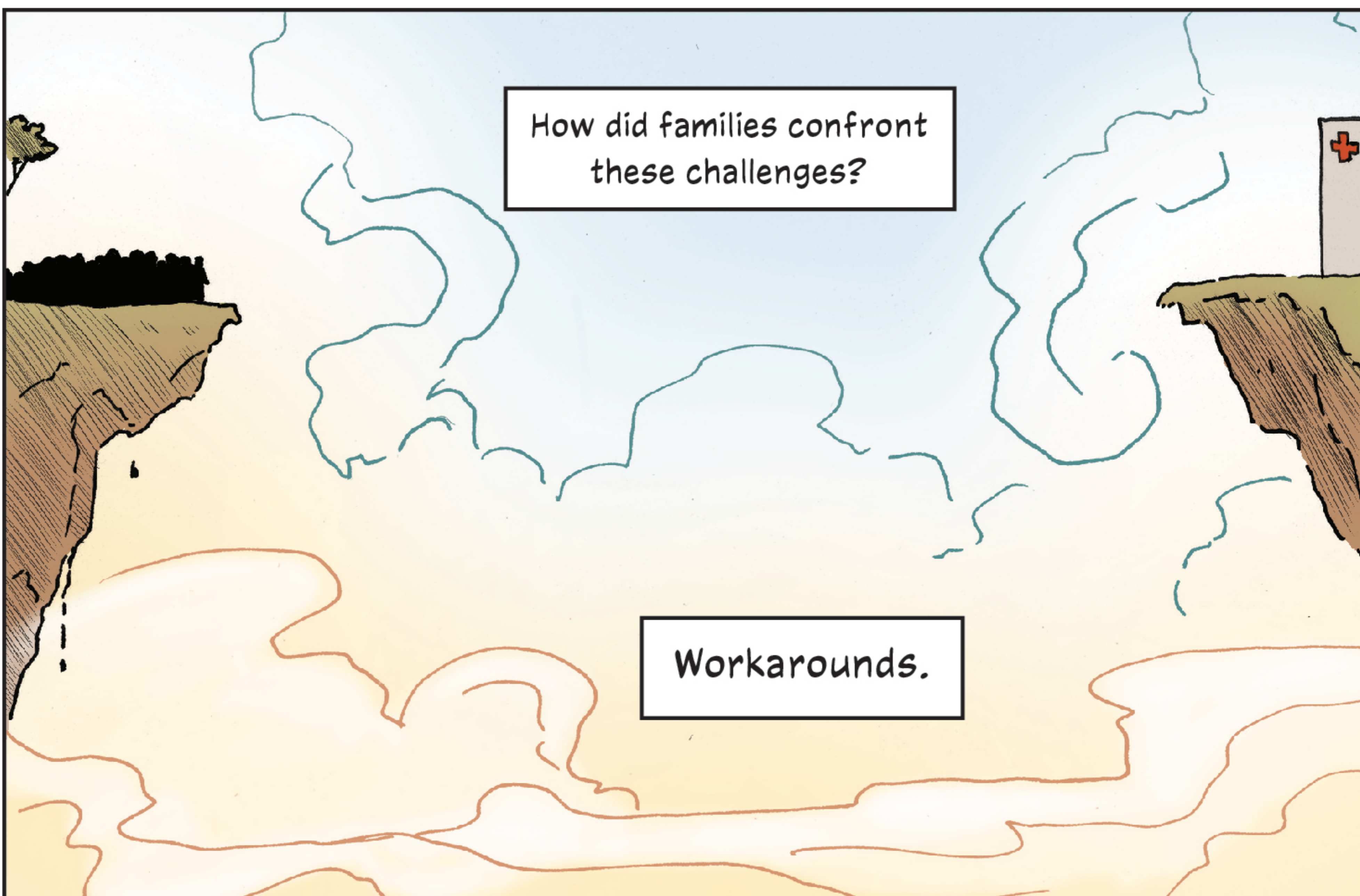
Written in collaboration with Maria-Elena Young





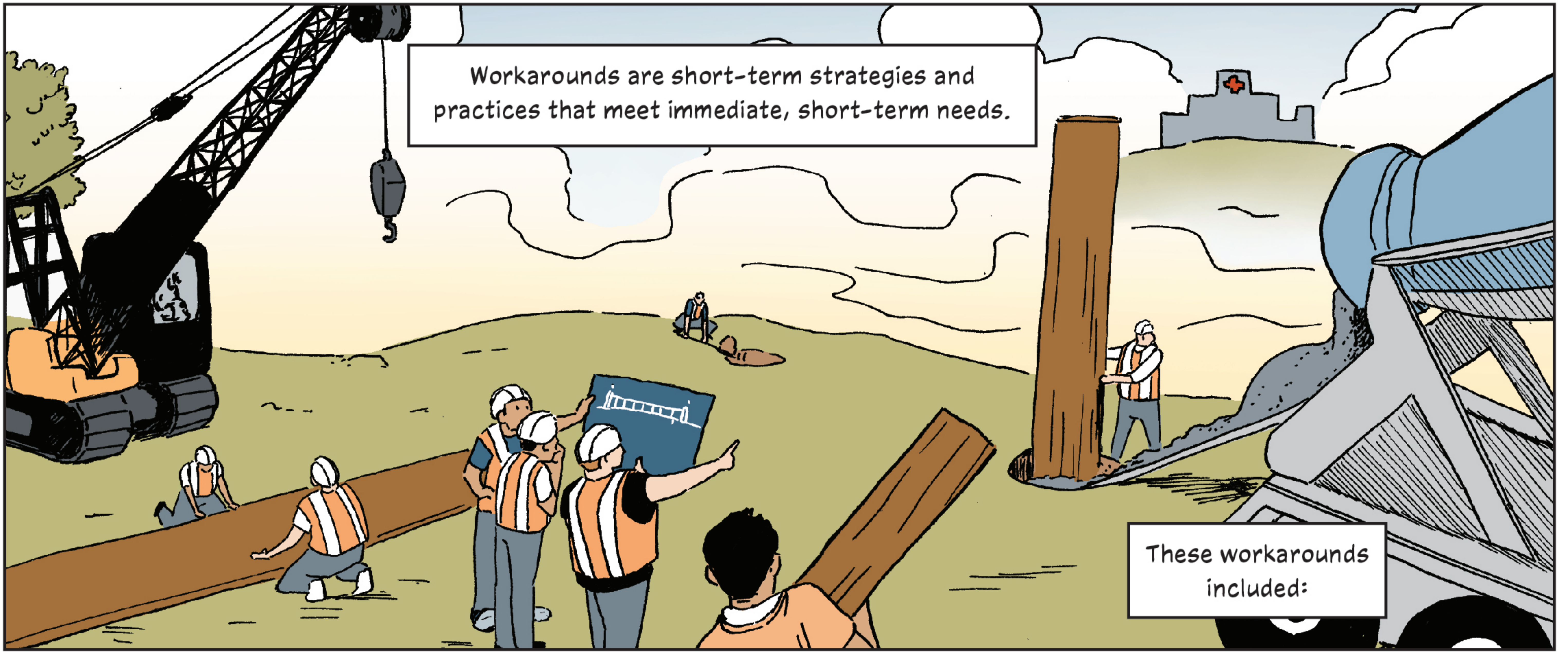
During the COVID-19 pandemic, Latinx immigrant families in the San Joaquin Valley not only faced serious health and economic challenges...

They were also offered fewer resources because some family members were undocumented.

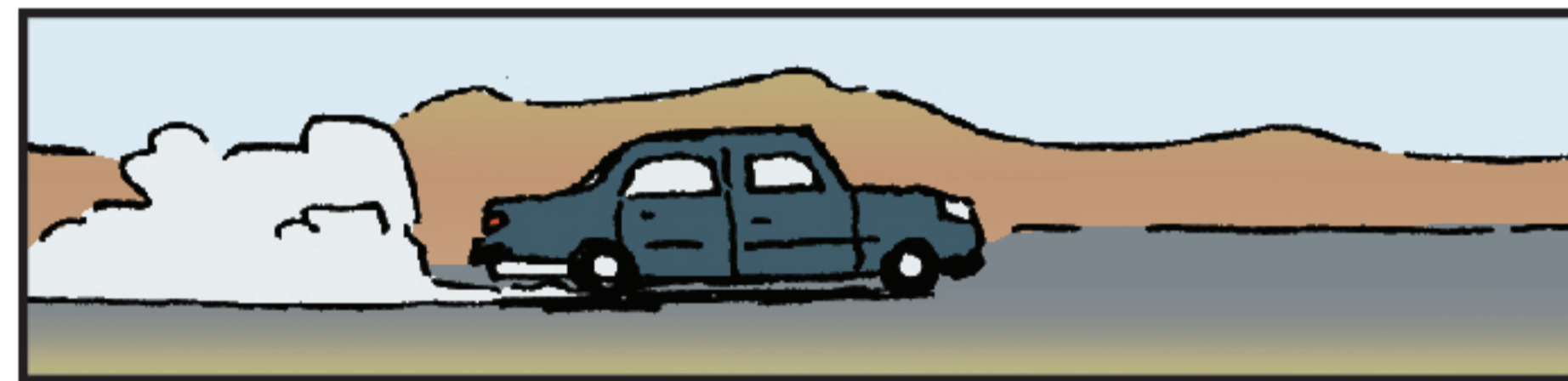
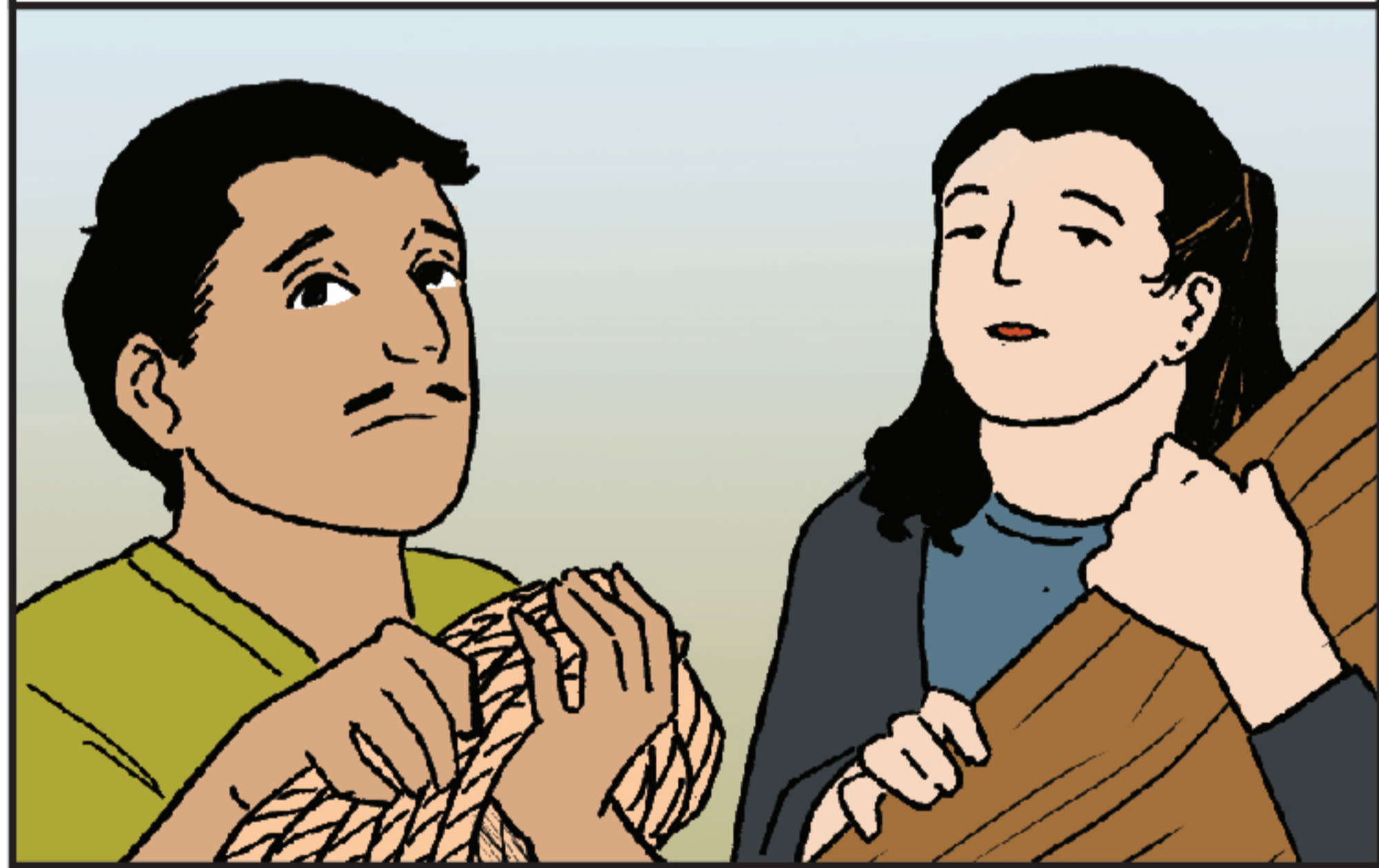


How did families confront these challenges?

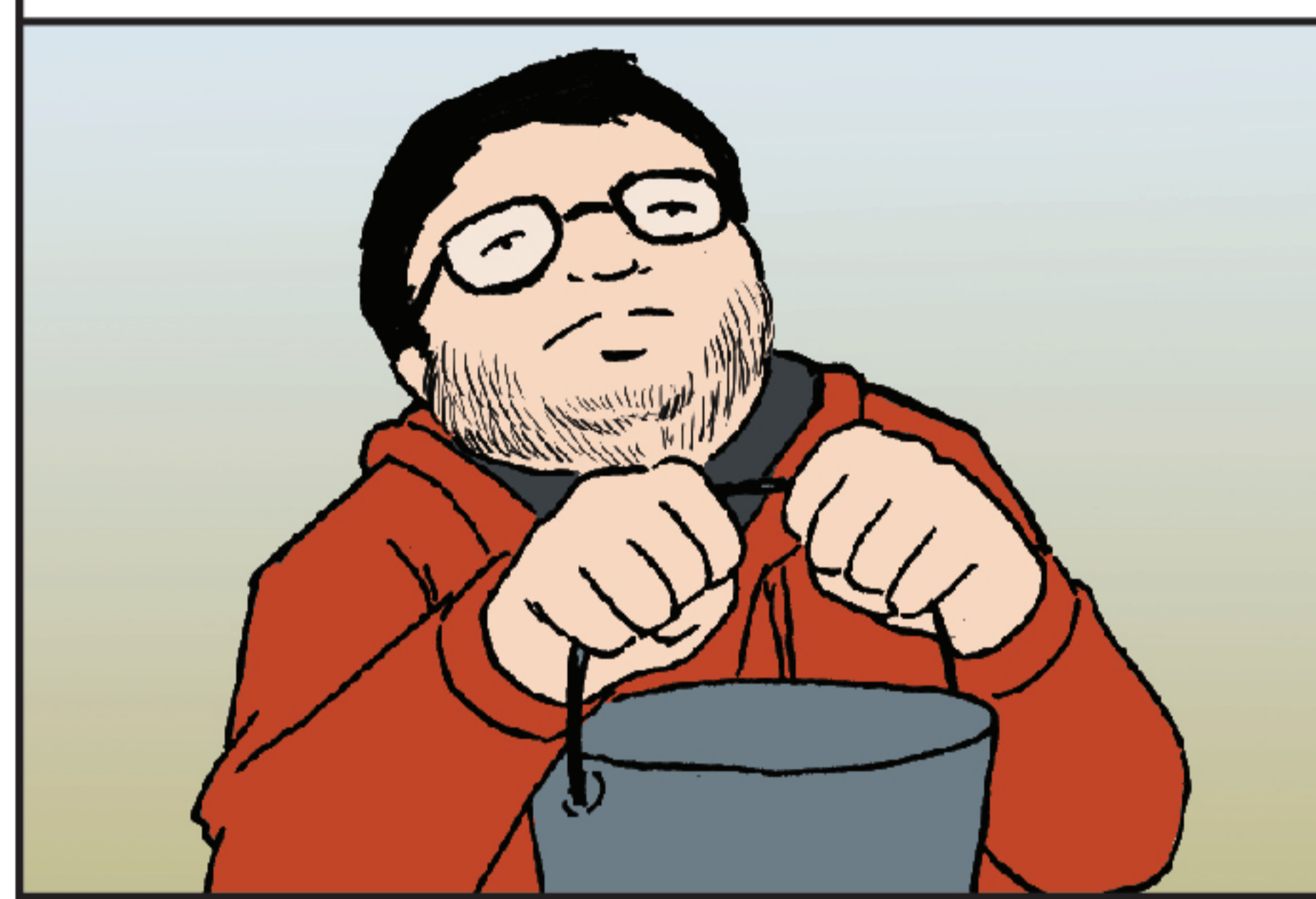
Workarounds.



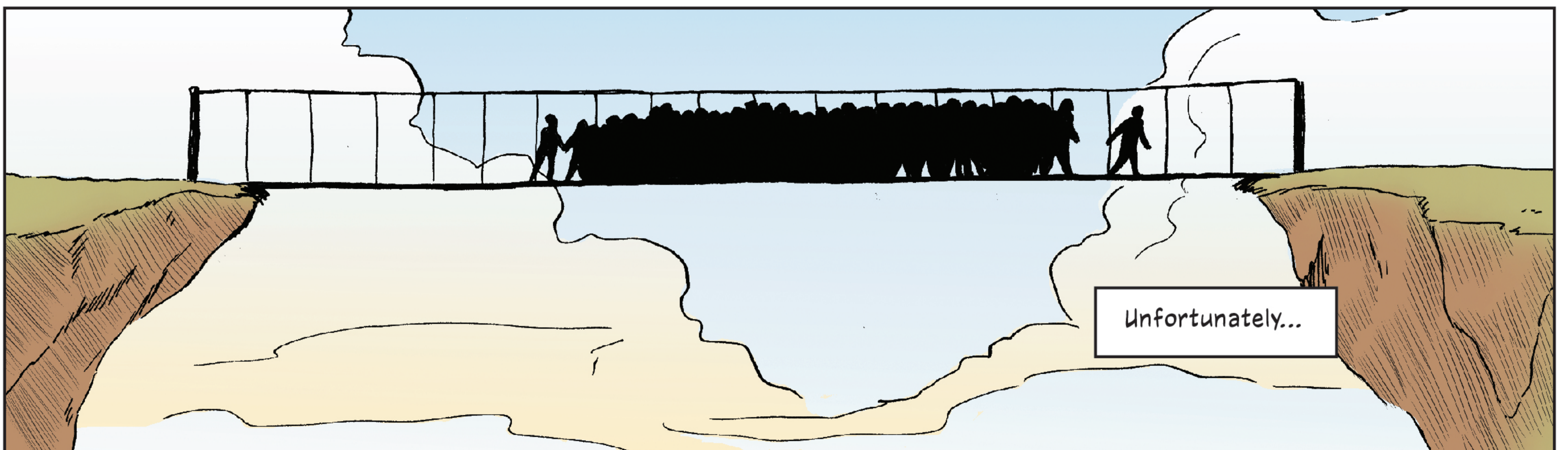
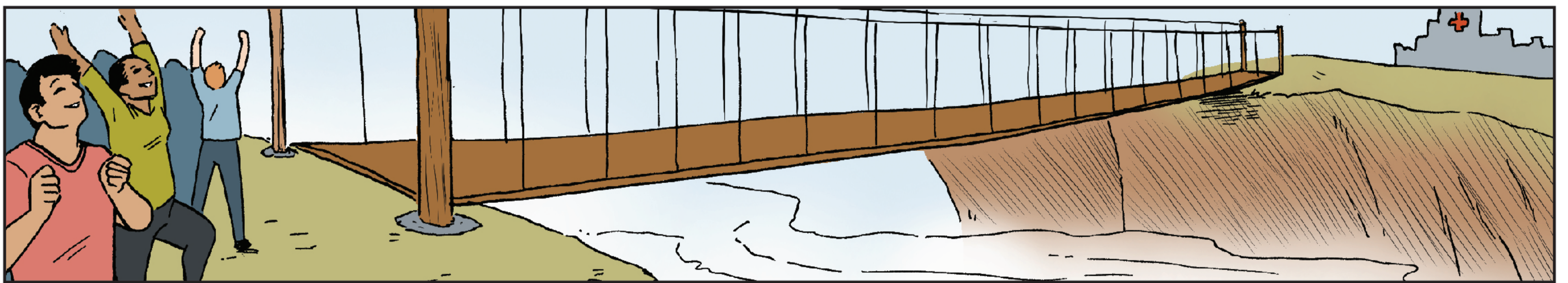
Documented family members helping undocumented family members obtain access to financial resources.

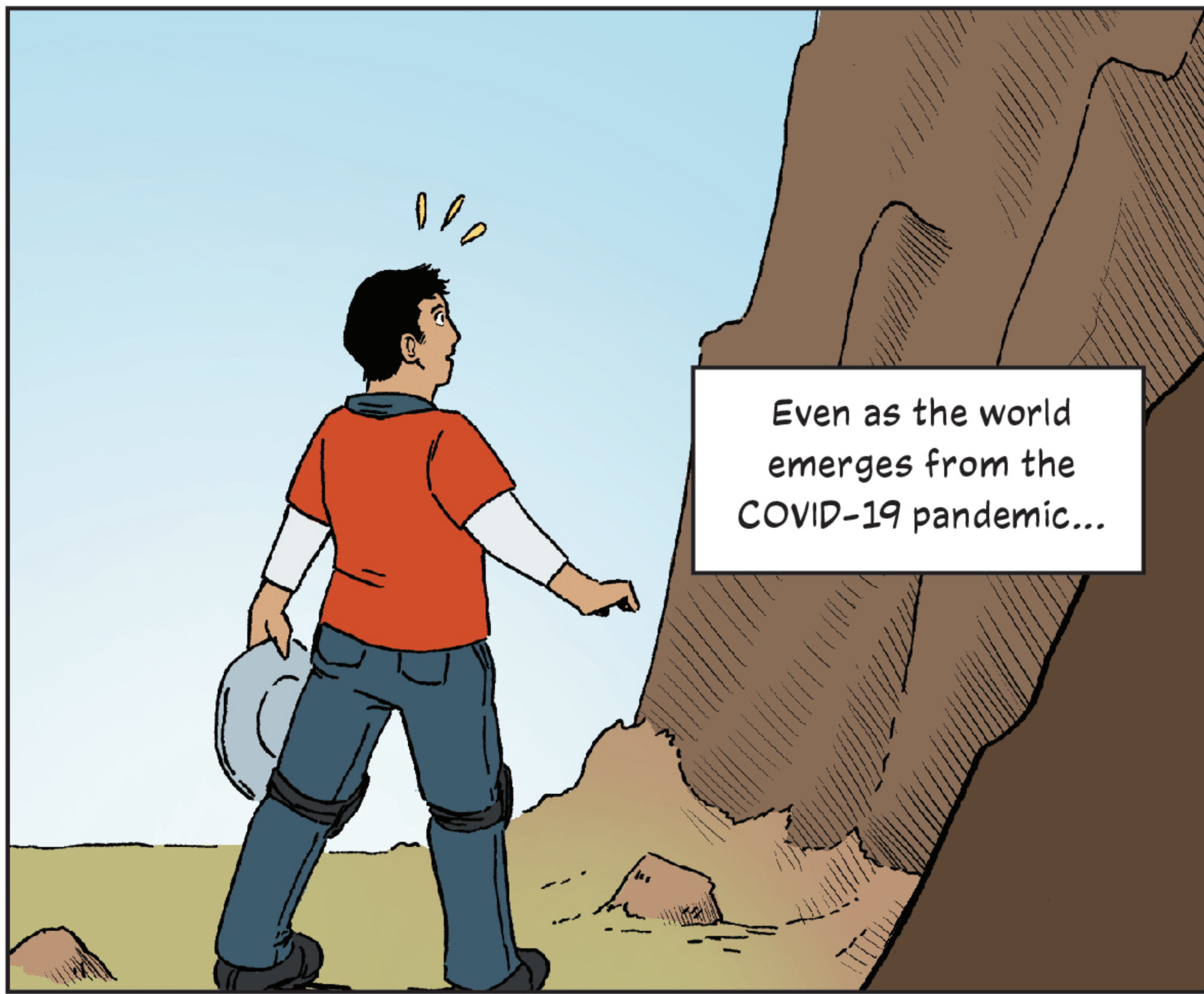


Leveraging resources to free up family income for important expenses not covered by assistance programs.

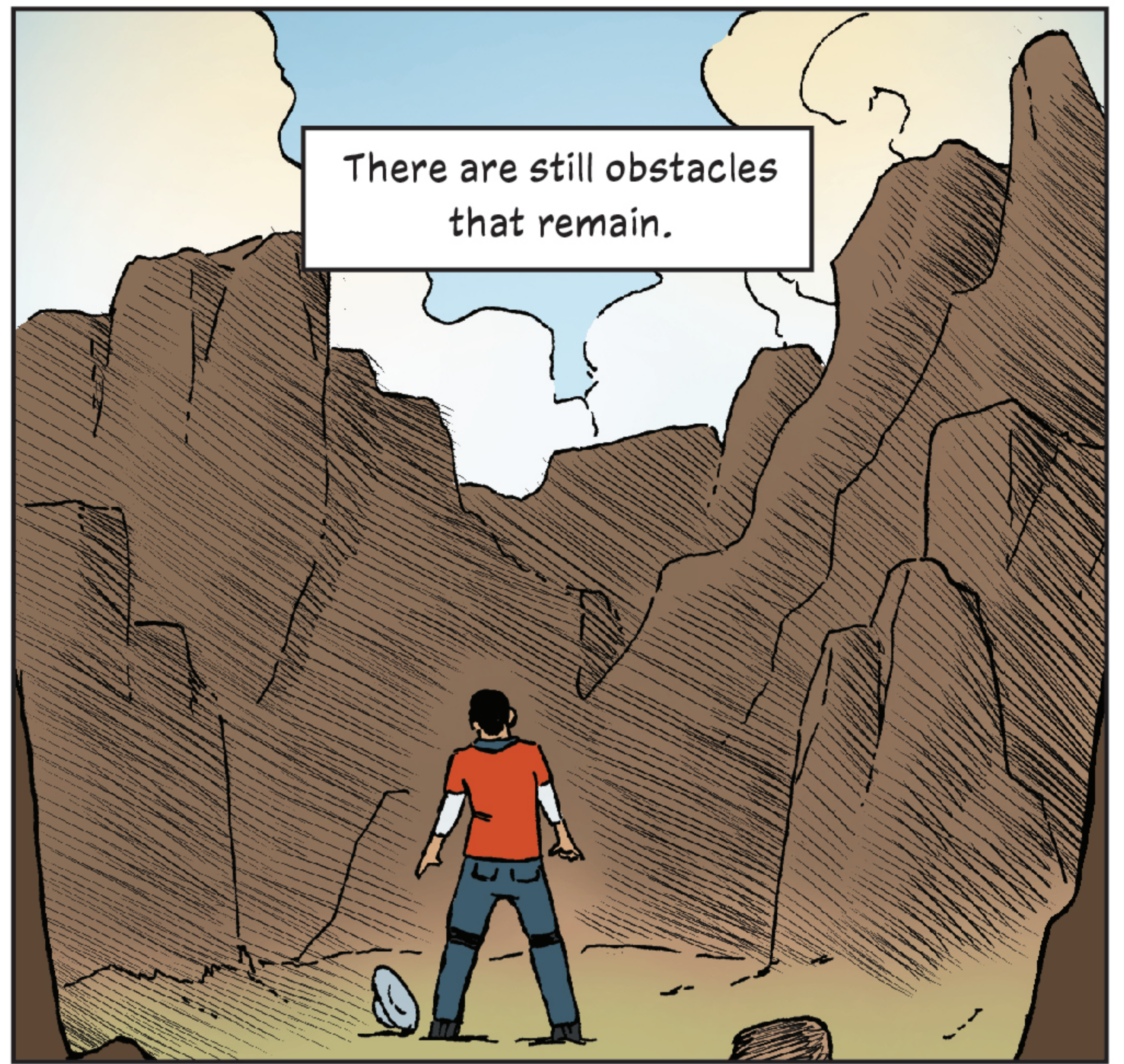


Utilizing food donation services as a financial lifeline.

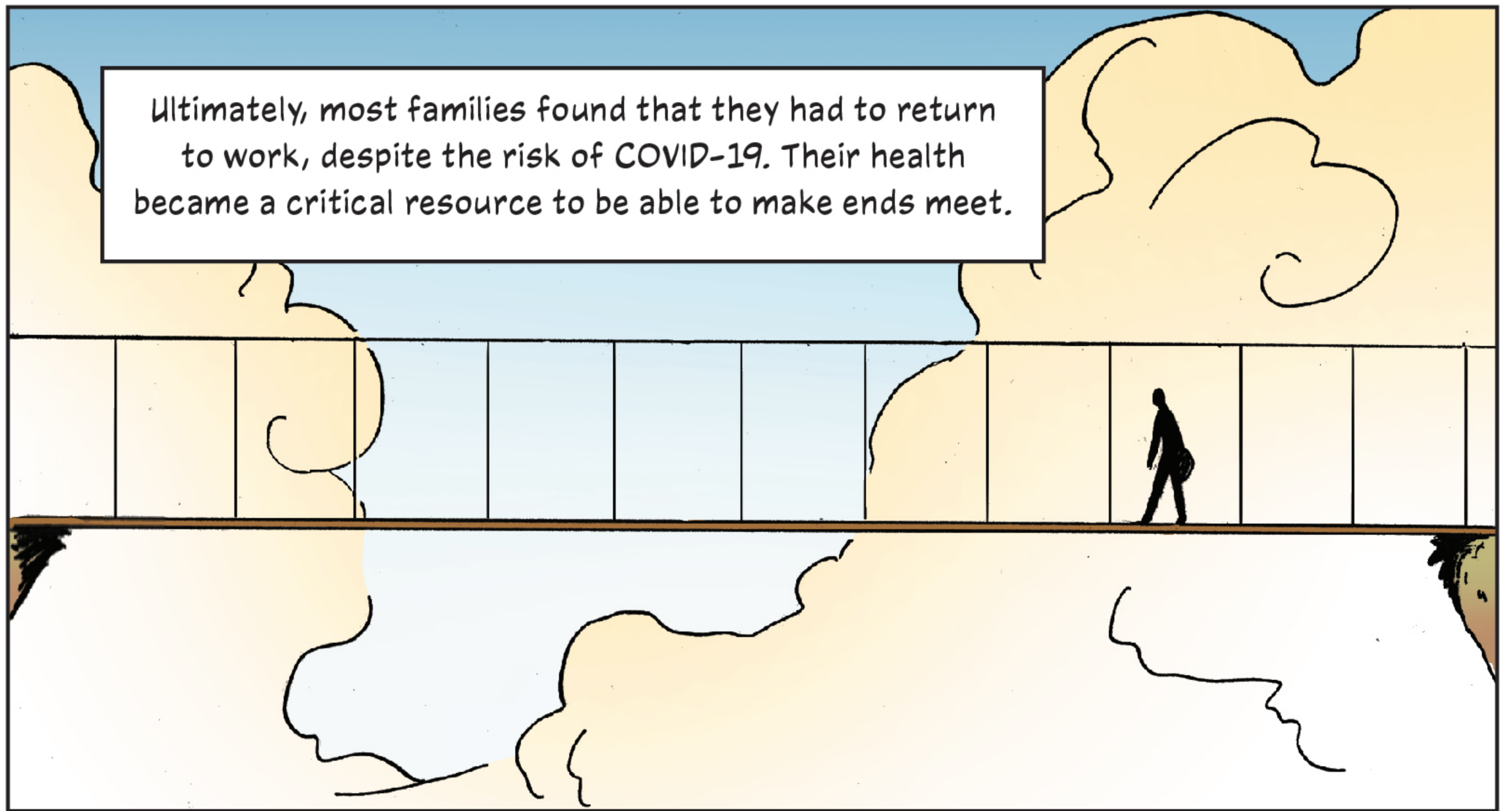




Even as the world emerges from the COVID-19 pandemic...



There are still obstacles that remain.



Ultimately, most families found that they had to return to work, despite the risk of COVID-19. Their health became a critical resource to be able to make ends meet.



These workarounds reflect the resilience and agency of Latinx immigrant families in rural communities...



As well as the limits of individual efforts when rural Latinx immigrant families are excluded from the safety net.